

On the following page there is a MARKED-UP version of the replacement claim 9 for the amendment to the Specification located on Page 30, line 17 through Page 31, line 6 for Patent Application 09/757,738. This amendment complies with 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(iii).

9. A consumable guide tube used in an electroslag process, said consumable guide tube configured to guide at least one welding wire into a welding cavity and transmits amperage to said at least one welding wire, comprising:
- a first elongated strip and a second elongated strip where said first elongated strip and said second elongated strip each has a front face and a back face;
 - at least one longitudinal channel [channels] defined on said front face of said first elongated strip configured to receive at least one welding wire;
 - said front face of said first elongated strip jointed to said front face of said second elongated strip; and
 - a plurality of insulator modules coupled to said first elongated strip and said second elongated strip.

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the telephonic communications made on December 11, 2002.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. A. Kerr', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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